

Headteacher: Mrs R Snape
Deputy head: Mr L Mawson
School Business Manager: Mrs S Jelliman

Telephone/Fax: 01223-568836
Email: office@spinney.cambs.sch.uk
Web: www.spinney.cambs.sch.uk



Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'



Thursday 5th October 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,
Dates for the Diary

- **Friends Pupil Disco** – Friday 6th October
- **Harvest Festival Service & Bring your Parent to Lunch** – Monday 9th October
- **Y5 Colne Valley Railway** – Wednesday 11th October
- **Flu Vaccinations Foundation -Year 4-** Wednesday 11th October
- **Y2 Wood Green Visit** – Tuesday 17th October
- **Individual Pupil Photos** – Friday 20th October
- **Foundation Super Hero Day** – Friday 20th October

Headteacher's reflections

I wrote to you on Monday to share with you the very sad news that Mrs Fasching has passed away at the weekend. This news has been a huge shock for our community and many tears have been shed. We shared the news with the children in classes on Monday and they have been well supported by teachers, TAS and Parents.

I am personally very grateful to the many parents who have taken the time to speak to me to share their fond memories and appreciation for what Mrs Fasching did not only for the school in general but for their own children specifically. For those of us who know and love Mrs Fasching, who worked with her or volunteered with her, we know that this news has hit us all hard! Mrs Fasching is a creative, determined, generous, and unique spirit. Her sense of fun and humour was a delight!

We have been gathering our memories and thanks for her life on Paper Butterflies, which we will present to her family. We chose butterflies; because butterflies are a symbol of transformation and we know that through her commitment and dedication in supporting children to become literate she transformed the lives of countless children not just in this school but other schools in Cambridgeshire. If you would like to write just a few words, Butterflies are available for you to collect from the school office.

We will be gathering together on Monday for our Harvest Celebration, and we will take some time in the church for some quiet reflection to remember her and to be thankful for all that she did for us.



Harvest Festival Service and Bring your Parent to School Day.

On Monday 9th October, we are inviting you to join us for our annual Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church, followed by 'Bring your Parent to School Lunch'.

We would very much appreciate contributions for our Harvest Collection which will be passed on to Jimmy's Nightshelter. Children can start bringing in their donations of non perishable items such as, tins of soup, packets of biscuits, or jars of jam. Please note that we are unable to serve lunch to any adults who have not already purchased a ticket.

The Spinney After School Club

We are delighted to inform you that we will be launching our new Spinney After School Club on Tuesday 31st October 2017. The club will run from 3:15 – 6:00pm on week days during term time. We aim to provide children aged 4-11 with a friendly, caring and supportive environment where they feel comfortable and happy. The cost of attending the After School Club is £12 per session. This will include a healthy snack which may consist of fresh fruit, sandwiches or similar items, subject to availability.

If you would like more information about the club or require booking details please contact the office team.



Foundation Super Heroes

On Friday 20th October Foundation children and staff will be having a Super Heroes Day. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite Super Hero. It is not compulsory so if children would prefer to come in school uniform as usual, they are welcome.



Individual Pupil Photographs.

Kittle photographers will be in school on Friday 20th October to take individual pupil photographs. As these are a lovely memento of your child's time here at The Spinney please remember smart clothes and big smiles for everyone. Pre school children are invited in from 8:30am so that family groups can be taken before school starts. Family groups of siblings will be taken during the morning.

Update: Ongoing Campaign Against School Cuts

The General Secretaries of ASCL, NAHT and the NEU would like to update you about the ongoing campaign against school cuts.

As a result of pressure from school leaders, Justine Greening has provided an additional £1.3 billion over two years for school funding however this falls well short of redressing the £2.8 billion real terms cut in funding that schools have suffered since 2015, let alone covering the impact of cost increases in coming years. Education in 2017 needs to be about much more than a basic cut-price learning process. We need the Treasury to recognise this. We have to demonstrate to MPs that this issue is not going away, that parents, teachers and support staff know the facts about school funding and that they expect the cuts to be reversed.

You can help take the campaign forward by doing two simple things:

1. Take a look at the joint education union www.schoolcuts.org.uk site. This has been updated to reflect the latest school funding figures published by the DfE. We would like you to share the link with staff and parents, so that this campaign is again broader than just school leaders and governors. Parents, in particular, are key to our success. Simply type in your postcode to see how our school is affected.
2. The campaign is organising a lobby of Parliament on the 24 October. This will be an opportunity for parents, carers, governors, teachers and leaders to arrange to meet their local MP in person inside Parliament in order to request their commitment to reverse school cuts. You can sign up for the lobby at www.schoolcuts.org.uk.

The campaign will continue to make a strong, principled and evidence-based case that children's education will be damaged unless further funding is urgently found.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE NEEDS TALENTED TEACHERS COULD THAT BE YOU?

Getting into Teaching Event

Find out different ways to apply, train, the associated costs, locations and time commitments. Speak to recently qualified teachers about their training and teaching experiences.

- Hear about career progression, opportunities in the teaching profession and being a leader in a Cambridgeshire school.
- Learn about the innovative good practice and sharing that is going on in Cambridgeshire schools.
- Speak to schools and ITT providers about the best teacher training route for you and get expert advice and guidance on applying for teacher training.

The event takes place at Anglia Ruskin University on Thursday 16th November 2017, 6-8pm.

To book a place for the event, please follow this link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/getting-into-teaching-information-event-tickets-37992374214>

Cambridge Centre for Family Research

A PhD student from the University of Cambridge Centre for Family Research is undertaking a study of stay-at-home fathers and their children aged 6 years-old and under. The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. This study will examine child development and parent-child relationships in families with young children. They are asking different types of families to take part in this study in order to explore similarities and

differences in parenting and family relationships. This study aims to look at stay-at-home fathers, stay-at-home mothers and families where both parents work. Few studies have given focus to families in which the father is the primary caregiver, which is why we have included stay-at-home fathers as one of the family types. We hope to add depth to knowledge of the role of parenting in children's development.

If you would be interested in taking part in this research, please email researchonfamilies@gmail.com

Message From The Friends



The Friends are pleased to report that the combined annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning** and Frozen Friday raised an amazing £175.50 (excl. gift aid) for the charity. So a big thank you for all your donations and cakes!



There will be a **school disco** on Friday 6th October in the school hall. The Foundation and KS1 disco will be from 4.30-5.45pm and the KS2 disco will be 6-7.30pm. This is a drop-off event and costs £3 on the door. The price includes a drink and a packet of crisps for each child.



With the festive period fast approaching, the Friends will once again be selling their **Christmas puddings**. There are three scrumptious flavours to choose from (or perhaps get one of each) - traditional, chocolate and sticky toffee (all non-alcoholic). These puddings are always very popular, so please make sure you don't miss out. There will be an opportunity to buy them during refreshments on Harvest Festival Day on Friday 9th October 2016. They are very reasonably priced at £6 each or two for £10.

AT this week's **Annual General Meeting** it was reported that the Friends had raised £5,442.64 through its fundraising events for the school. Fundraising events included 3 discos, 2 fairs, frozen Fridays and the selling of Christmas puddings and tea towels. The Friends had also given the school just under £5,000 during 2016/17 that helped pay for 2 stay and plays, some new picnic benches, a shed, renovation of the school hall floor, prizes for the Easter hunt and bonnet parade and a variety of books and play equipment for the school. The current committee were also re-elected to serve another academic year.

Did you know that you can **raise money for the school** whilst shopping on-line and it won't cost you a penny? To raise money, instead of going directly to the retailer website, log into <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> first and click on the retailer you want to shop with. You'll then be taken to the retailers website where you shop as you would normally. But because you visited easyfundraising first, the school will get a donation. There are over 3,000 retailers which include Amazon, M&S, Clarks, ebay, John Lewis and Argos. The donation is usually a percentage of how much you spend or a set amount. For all first time users you will need to join by setting up an account and registering that you are supporting The Friends of the Spinney School – Cambridge, Cherry Hinton.

Date for your diary: This year's **Christmas Winter Wonderland Fair** will be on Sunday 3rd December 2017 from 2.30-5.30pm in the school hall.



My Cambridge is a growing partnership of organisations and individuals committed to making sure that all young people feel part of the rich variety of culture in Cambridge. This link will help you to discover all the latest events, news and training opportunities for adults working with young people plus creative activities for children in Cambridge <http://www.cambridgeartsnetwork.com/my-cambridge>



52 Stories

52 Stories Takes place every week at Cherry Hinton Library on Saturdays from 10.30am – 11.15am.

If you would like to become a 52 Stories Reader or become a volunteer to help us please come along to Cherry Hinton Library during one of our sessions and talk to one of the 52 Story Team Members. www.52stories.co.uk
www.facebook.com/52stores



Fireworks Drawing Competition

Each year, the Midsummer Common Fireworks Display promotes safety and unity by keeping down the number of firework related accidents from home displays. They are keen to promote this message to local primary schools to hopefully encourage children and their families to attend the safe and free event. There will be a competition across local primary schools for children to draw their own depictions of Bonfire Night Fireworks. The competition is open to all primary students in Cambridge. Entries will be displayed in the VIP marquee at the event and the winning child will have the opportunity to push the plunger that starts the firework display. There is also a £250 prize to the winning entrant's school. Entries can be handed into the Cambridge Live Ticket Office or posted to, Sophie Osborne (City Events Coordinator), Cambridge Live, 3 Parson's Court, Wheeler Street, Cambridge CB2 3QE. The Closing date is Friday 20th October



Travel Through Time: Come and help create a fun mural in the library

You are invited to help create a mural using collage materials with author/illustrator Marion Lindsay at Cherry Hinton Library on Monday 23rd October from 10.30am -12 midday. All families are welcome to this drop in session but please remember that parents/carers must stay with their children.



Wonderful Wandlebury Archaeology & History fun day

Cambridge Past Present and Future are holding an Archaeology & History fun day on Saturday 7 October 12 noon - 4.30pm at Wandlebury Country Park. Learn about the landscape from local archaeologists - presentations start at 12 noon with 'Iron Age Hillforts'. Enjoy the fascinating trails around the hillfort and 19th century estate, Cambridge Storytellers, Cambridge Beekeepers, puppets with Vital Spark Theatre, archery, cord making, face painting, costumes, chainmail making and basket weaving. For more information visit www.cambridgeppf.org. Entry is free but normal parking charges apply.

BRAND NEW COURSE FOR GIRLS AT CAMBRIDGE UNITED!!!

Cambridge United is offering a course for girls to develop their football. They are encouraging girls from local clubs to attend in the half term holiday. The course is for committed girls who are serious about developing their football and who love football. To book please visit: <https://goo.gl/Z1hqvD> or call 01223 632770

And Finally....

One of Mrs Fasching's famous sayings was "Effort Leads to Success" She would remind the children and the teachers that learning something new was not easy, it was difficult and challenging but the effort would be worth it in the end. Mrs Fasching never gave up on anyone and because of her dedication and commitment many children went on to experience success in becoming literate, confident readers and writers!

Thank you Mrs Fasching for all you have done for our school! We love you and treasure your memory!



Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education